REMARKS

Claims 1 - 20 are pending in the above-identified application.

Claims 1 - 13 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claims the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention and to eliminate multiple dependency and the fee associated therewith.

Claims 14 - 20 have been added to more particularly point out and distinctly claims the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

CONCLUSION

Favorable action is most earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions, or wishes to discuss this matter, please contact the undersigned at the telecommunication numbers listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: <u>2-8-00</u> By:

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